

Request to amend the Free Sport Fishing Days Nonrule Policy Document, Natural Resources Commission Information Bulletin #59; Administrative Cause No. 12-187D

The Division of Fish and Wildlife is requesting an amendment to the free sport fishing days non-rule policy to establish the dates for 2013. An amendment was made to the state law this year to allow up to four days to be selected each year, instead of just two. Therefore, we are requesting to add April 20, the week before the stream trout season opens, as well as May 18, which is Armed Forces Day. These dates also correspond with GoFishIN Family Learn to Fish Workshops scheduled for next year. June 1 and 2 matches up with the National Free Fishing Weekend.

Natural Resources Commission
Information Bulletin #59 (~~First~~ **Second** Amendment)
~~October 1, 2010~~ **December 1, 2012**

Subject: Free Sport Fishing Days (IC 14-22-18-1)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide the dates for free sport fishing days in ~~the years of 2011 and 2012~~ **2013**, as authorized by IC 14-22-18-1.

2. Background

According to IC 14-22-18-1, the director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), with the approval of the Natural Resources Commission, may designate ~~two~~ **up to four (4)** days a year as free sport fishing days. The free sport fishing days can be any ~~two~~ **four (4)** days of the year and be consecutive or nonconsecutive. The DNR usually designates **two of** these dates as the first full weekend in June when people are starting vacations and school is out. **These two** free sport fishing days have traditionally been designated ~~as consecutive days~~ on a single weekend and associated with the first full weekend of National Fishing and Boating Week sponsored by the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation. **The other two dates are designed to fit in with the GoFishIN Family Learn to Fish Workshops, which are held on the third Saturday of the month. The date in April will be a week before the opening of the stream trout season, and the date in May will also coincide with Armed Forces Day.**

3. Dates

The Free Sport Fishing Days for ~~the years 2011 and 2012~~ **2013** are as follows:

~~June 4 and 5, 2011~~
~~June 2 and 3, 2012~~
April 20, 2013
May 18, 2013
June 1 and 2, 2013